

**Pilot Name: MV Bees Apiary**

**School/District Name: Meroby Elementary & Mountain Valley Middle School/RSU10**

**Contact: Maggie Corlett (MES teacher) Jodi Ellis (MES Principal) Lacey Todd (MVMS teacher) Cheryl Gurney (MVMS principal)**

**Overview:**

RSU 10 (MV Bee Academy) will pilot a program to support students struggling with ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). The work will provide strategies to enhance engagement, improve attendance, foster resilience skills, and promote positive behaviors. Meroby Elementary and Mountain Valley Middle School will team up to develop and expand The MV Bee Academy in the RSU#10 School District.

An apiary and storage facility will be built to provide the infrastructure needed for beekeeping experiences. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>-grade students will work closely with a local bee club, leaning on this organization to teach and support them. As their knowledge base grows, these children will mentor other grade levels and share their knowledge with community members. To maintain the sustainability of this program, students will develop a small business. In it, they will sell queen bees, honey, wax products, and other bee-related items. This pilot program will give the students a unique opportunity to take on a leadership role in their community, develop SEL strategies, and improve their problem-solving ability while becoming more engaged at school.

**Contact:**

Name: Maggie Corlett and Lacey Todd

Email: mcorlett@rsu10.org, ltodd@rsu10.org

Phone: 207-364-3715

Additional Contacts:

Jodi Ellis (MES Principal): [jellis@rsu10.org](mailto:jellis@rsu10.org)

Cheryl Gurney (MVMS Principal): [cgurney@rsu10.org](mailto:cgurney@rsu10.org)

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